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Docket No.: 09373/100G811-US1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Frances H. Arnold

Application No.: 09/722,602

Art Unit: 1652

Filed: November 27, 2000

Examiner: Y. D. Pak

For: DIRECTED EVOLUTION OF OXIDASE
ENZYMES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office mailed on December 2, 2003, please enter the following preliminary amendments and consider the accompanying remarks. A Petition for Extension of Time is also submitted herewith, along with the required fee, requesting that the time period for filing a Brief on Appeal in this application be extended for a period of one month (i.e., from August 2, 2004 to September 2, 2004). A Request for Continuing Examination is also submitted herewith, along with the required fee. It is believed that no additional fees are required for these submissions. However, should the US Patent and Trademark Office determine that any additional fee is required or that a refund is due for this application, then applicants hereby authorize and request that the Commissioner charge the required fee and/or credit the refund due to our Deposit Account No. 01-0400.

This submission is accompanied by a Request for Continuing Examination and fee for a one month extension in response to the Final Office Action mailed December 2, 2003 in this application. A Notice of Appeal has been filed with a three month request for extension of time on June 2, 2004. Reconsideration of the subject application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.